

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 116087
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY S/S:JETHYDEN

APPROVED BY S/S:JETHYDEN

-----031679 060149Z /62

O 060143Z MAY 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0216

S E C R E T STATE 116087

NODIS

FOL RPT HELSINKI 1386 ACTION SECSTATE 5 MAY 78 QUOTE

S E C R E T HELSINKI 1386

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PASS:

NSC-DR. BRZEZINSKI - IMMEDIATE

ACDA - AMBASSADOR WARNKE - IMMEDIATE

DOD/SECRETARY OF DEFENSE - IMMEDIATE

DOD/JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF - IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW - IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM PCAT US UR

SUBJECT: US-SOVIET CAT: MAY 5 PLENARY

DURING THE COURSE OF THE LONG (ALMOST FOUR HOURS) SECOND
PLENARY SESSION, EACH SIDE DESCRIBED THE PRINCIPLES WHICH

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GOVERN ITS ARMS TRANSFERS. SOVIETS DESCRIBED THREE
CRITERIA WHICH ALLOW A TRANSFER TO BE MADE, AND FIVE
WHICH WOULD MAKE A TRANSFER ILLEGITIMATE. ALL EIGHT ARE
DERIVED FROM UN DOCUMENTS. US DESCRIBED PRINCIPLES CONTAINED
IN RELEVANT STATUTES. SOVIET POINT WAS THAT THEIR PRINCI-
PLES CONSTITUTE A UNIVERSAL STANDARD WHICH CAN (AND MUST)
APPLY EQUALLY TO EVERY REGION. ON THE OTHER HAND, US

ARGUED THE NECESSITY FOR A PRAGMATIC APPROACH, ADDRESSING SPECIFIC REGIONS. SOVIETS FINALLY AGREED THAT NEITHER APPROACH WAS SUPERIOR TO THE OTHER, AND THAT OUR CHIEF TASK WAS TO FIND THE PROPER WAY TO COMBINE THEM, WHILE GELB ARGUED THAT THE REGIONAL APPROACH IS THE NECESSARY VEHICLE FOR ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTING THE RELEVANT PRINCIPLES. THERE WAS SOME BACKSLIDING IN TONE OF SOVIET PRESENTATION TODAY, AND SEVERAL FALSE SCENTS WERE INTRODUCED TO THROW THE DISCUSSION OFF TRACK. ALSO, THE QUESTION WAS AGAIN RAISED OF WHETHER AN "OBJECTIVE BASIS" YET EXISTS TO MOVE FROM CONSULTATIONS TO NEGOTIATIONS IN THE NEXT ROUND. HOWEVER, AFTER A VERY TOUGH REJOINDER FROM GELB, WHICH FRANKLY POINTED OUT FLAWS AND PHONY ARGUMENTS, MENDELEVICH APPARENTLY RECONSIDERED, AND RETURNED TO SERIOUS AND MORE POSITIVE APPROACH.

FULL REPORT FOLLOWS.
RIDGWAY

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: PARM, PCAT, US, UR
To: MOSCOW WHITE HOUSE
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